



THE OBSERVER

CONTENTS

NEWS

TRICK OR TREAT FOR
THE HUNGRY

IMPROV SHOW

OPINIONS SA ELECTIONS

HOW TO COMPLAIN EFFECTIVELY

FEATURES

TEN YEARS OF HALO

CRAZY, STUPID, LOVE

SPORTS

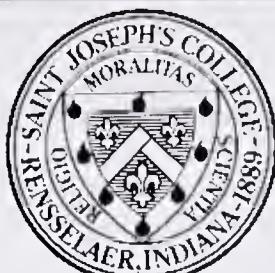
PUMAS END FOOTBALL
SEASON

PUMA WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL

THE BACK PAGE

DATING ADVICE

WOULD YOU RATHER?



Education Students Attend ISEA Fall Conference

By F. H. Gonzalez

Staff Writer

During the last weekend of October, a group of ten Elementary Education majors and secondary education minors attended the ISEA Fall Conference in Indianapolis. The conference was held at the Wyndham hotel and was attended by members of the Puma Educators, along with Education professor, Dr. Karen Venditti. The ISEA (Indiana Student Education Association) held this conference over the weekend as an opportunity for future educators to listen in on seminar sessions and workshops.

Several of the sessions were available for each of the attendees to choose from throughout the first night of the conference that dealt with ISEA programs like Outreach to Teach and nationwide programs like Read Across America. Outreach to Teach is a program that helps repair schools in need of renovation. Read Across America programs support literacy in schools during the week of Dr. Seuss' birthday. Sophomore Math major Sarah Stines and sophomore English major Jessica Ruschke are co-chairs for the project with Indiana State student Sarah Wise. They participated in the presentation with their other co-chair and one of last year's chairs.

Besides the many sessions available, conference attendees were given the chance to engage in socials and speak with lecturers as well as students interested in becoming educators. Friday night



Photo courtesy of Maggie Schmitt

Senior Elementary Education majors Maggie Schmitt, Brittany Rooney, and Chantel Johnson pose with original Freedom Writer Manuel Scott after his keynote address at the ISEA Fall Conference.

there was an evening social that included a 1980's style dance party and bingo sessions.

On Saturday, the students went to various lectures on the development of students and how educators can better understand the classroom. Some lectures examined topics such as helping educators to approach their first year as a teacher, and how to understand the minds of middle school students. "Fall Conference is a great opportunity to get some professional development while student teaching. Not to

mention all the workshops I attended and the keynote speaker were phenomenal," said senior Elementary Education major Maggie Schmitt.

The conference hosted a keynote speaker, Manuel Scott, whose story was told in the film Freedom Writers. He spoke about how to inspire students to do better in the classroom as well as making teaching relevant to the lives of students. "Manuel Scott offers plenty of real-life examples that are relevant to pre-service teachers," said Schmitt. Scott

spoke about teachers encouraging their students to excel to see their education is worth more than a number on their grade.

The Conference ended on Saturday afternoon with the students returning to campus with a new perspective on their majors. Junior James Bertucci commented on the weekend, "It was good to see other people outside our school who are trying to help us become good teachers. It's reassuring and good to see this subject is being taken seriously."

SUB Brings Comedians Cam O'Connor and Rob Gleason To Campus

By Erin Hill
Staff Writer

Laughter is the best medicine, and on Thursday November 3, the campus was graced with the gift of laughter. In the ballroom two comedians brought to campus by SUB performed. The opening act was Cam O'Connor. He opened the show with his witty and funny jokes. Filling the room with the joy of laughter by telling the students of his second favorite vegetable, his unemployed roommate, he warmed our humors up for the main man, Rob Gleason from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He was recently featured on an MTV Comedy Showcase and was listed

in the New York Post as having one of the 150 "Best Jests" of the year.

As a freshman in college he started going to clubs, in hopes his career would take off. Gleason claimed that he started doing comedy for romance. "I wanted to impress a girl. It didn't work. I mean, she was very impressed but didn't want to date me. We are good friends and I would have quit stand up if it truly would have worked the way I wanted it too," said Gleason. He spends most of his time writing and taking in life experiences to get his material for the show. He also says that sometimes you just have to go along with the audience.

During the show he demonstrated that by playing off the crowd comments and asked the audience members repeatedly what they wanted to talk about.

He says just to go with the flow and anything can be turned into a joke. Even a student's Puma Pig keychain became the basis for several jokes.



Photos courtesy of rooftopcomedy.com and robgleeson.com
Rob Gleason has given numerous performances at comedy clubs and colleges across the country.

Halloween Trick or Treating is not just for candy anymore

Students collect canned goods for food pantry during annual Trick or Treat for the Hungry

By Allison Stanton

Staff Writer

Candy was not the only thing collected this Halloween. Some students, including some Freshman Seminar classes, the football team, the Columbian Players, other groups, and many other volunteers collected non-perishable items for the Good Samaritan Food Pantry.

At least fifty-five students were involved with this charitable event, and many others helped organize this occasion that occurred from 5-7 pm, on Halloween night. During trick or treating hours, students collected canned goods and other non-perishables to stock the pantry shelves.

Brant Schmit helped set up areas and boundaries, Ed Feicht gave everyone information on the food pantry and the unfortunate growing need in our community. All who were involved dropped off the food they received directly at the pantry.

Each team, organized by the students, went to their designated area to find spare canned goods to assist underprivileged families

receive food, so they could eventually enjoy a nice, hot meal. "We had perfect weather, lots of excited, enthusiastic students to trick-or-treat, as well as people to help with the sorting etc. of food at the pantry," said Brother Tim Hemm.

When asked what he believed was the most beneficial part of the activity, he said: "In the context of this event, knowing that you really are helping those who are less fortunate, people who don't have food to put on their table. [It] makes it really worthwhile and beneficial to all who participate." As more and more families see hard times, it is always helpful to have people that are able and willing to give.

It also brought Rensselaer a strong sense of community. "It felt great to give back to the community that I grew up in," said junior Computer Science major Katelyn Herre. The community all came together for this occasion, to show their support for one another. The project is projected to expand and cover more area during next year's activities.



Photos courtesy of Brother Tim Hemm, C.P.P.S.

(Top) Freshmen Megan Hutzel, Anastasia Marsh, Will Miller, and Abrom Smith drop off food at Good Samaritan Food Pantry. They collected several bags of canned goods in their assigned area of Rensselaer. Other groups also collected large amounts of canned goods and other non-perishable food items.



(Bottom) Many members of the Football team also participated in Trick or Treat for the Hungry. Before the event, everyone gathered in the Gaspar Center to receive instructions

Haunted House terrifies students

By Patrick Fisher

Staff Writer

"Not even I go back there!" the guide said as she led groups of students to the basement of Justin Hall. On October 28th, Justin Hall hosted its haunted house in the basement just in time for Halloween. Construction was hard and took all of the previous week. In the haunted house, there were a number of surprises for the unwary wanderer.

It all started with the blood-coated slaughterhouse, where a butcher would slam his cleaver into the gore-covered table to great effect. In some cases, this butcher would follow guests down the hallway and surprise them once again. After the slaughterhouse, guests were taken through the old girls' locker rooms from back when the girls' soccer team dressed down there.

As one would walk past a certain locker, a loud bang would project from the inside, easily causing a jump if not from fear but surprise at the sudden noise. The guests were then led into the shower rooms, full of warm steam, where a girl supposedly snapped. If one listened "carefully" enough, one could hear the ear-splitting shrieks of the girl coming from the showers.

Walking down the hallways, people afflicted by coulrophobia would be scared out of their wits as they were accosted by a demented clown that had apparently once lived on campus to "serve the brothers."

One would pass an exercise room with "No Pain, No Gain" written in blood on a plastic sheet upon it and go to a long corridor with ghouls hiding behind the walls that would try to scare people. One of these alleged ghouls popped his head out and turned out to be a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle. Finally, there was a hallway filled with dead leaves

that led to a maze of semi-translucent tarp that led to the way out. In this maze, the puppet, Billie, from the Saw movie series on his tricycle, would chase one for a short distance. There was a madman in a hockey mask and a short, large-headed demon with a cane to intimidate any who dared walk through the maze. To add to the atmosphere, a couple of the aforementioned corpse-painted girls were behind a caged wall, moaning for help and banging on their cages. All of this eventually led back to the beginning of the maze, and then back to the entrance.



Photo courtesy of Patrick Fisher
Sophomore RA's Stacy Ruiz, Ryan Dillan, and Andra Rains acted out parts in the haunted house the Friday before Halloween.

Improv group performs Halloween-themed show

By Rachel King

Staff Writer

On October 28, 2011 the Saint Joseph's College Improvisation group, Production Under Construction gave a Halloween performance. The crowd was laughing the entire time. The improv group played various improvisational games. The performers took turns participating, and kept the audience involved by asking them topics that would become the basis of their games. During one game the performers had the crowd write down different phrases. Then, two people acted like they were in a Laundromat and acted like they were finding money and read the phrases during their performance, and the crowd found some of the phrases

to be hilarious. A few times the group went out into the audience to get volunteers. The group also revived some of the crowd favorites from their previous show. The whole group became an expert on a subject and the audience asked them questions about the topic. They stood in a line and each person could only say one word. Overall, the improv group felt the performance went well. "We had a lot of laughs. I think they liked the games. It went very smoothly even though there were only seven of us," said sophomore English Creative Writing major Margaret Engelhart.

Letter to the Editor

By Kristina Hemmerling
Guest Writer

It's very understandable to be afraid of getting a job after college. Once we're done here we have to go out into the "real" world, get "real" jobs, and start "real" lives.

I'm nervous too, but one reason I'm not nervous is the major I chose. Looking at the current job market is not an appealing thing, unemployment sucks, and even when you get a job it may not be the best paying one ever, but I still have hope. It is scary to think about how people with very specialized majors aren't finding jobs, but I personally think having a major in the humanities is and will be a good thing.

Having a non-super-specific job can give you more options, plus being able to write, and to write well, is always a bonus. Companies and businesses need to hire people who can write. Writers can also get writing specific jobs, but I think it's nice to know there's more options. "We have hired about 3 Creative Writing majors here at Saint Joe to write alumni brochures and what-not," Charley Kerlin said in my Creative writing class the other day. That's good news. There's hope for those of us who can write. We can probably find jobs in most companies based off of writing skills, plus after going here we'll have a big portfolio of writing to show off.

College invites public comments for upcoming accreditation visit

Saint Joseph's College will undergo a comprehensive evaluation visit February 13-15, 2012, by a team representing The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Saint Joseph's College has been accredited by the Commission since 1950. Its accreditation is at the Master's degree level and includes a degree site at one other location, Lafayette, within the state.

The Higher Learning Commission is one of six accrediting agencies in the United States that provide institutional accreditation on a regional basis. Institutional accreditation evaluates an entire institution and accredits it as a whole. Other agencies provide accreditation for specific programs. Accreditation is voluntary. The Commission accredits approximately 1,100 institutions of higher education in a nineteen-state region. The Commission is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

For the past year and a half, Saint Joseph's College has been engaged in a process of self-study, addressing the Commission's requirements and criteria for accreditation. The evaluation team will visit the institution to gather evidence that the self-study is thorough and accurate. The team will recommend to the Commission a continuing status

for the College; following a review process, the Commission itself will take the final action.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the College:

Public Comment on
Saint Joseph's College
The Higher Learning
Commission
230 South LaSalle Street,
Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Written, signed comments must be received by January 13, 2012. The Commission cannot guarantee that comments received after the due date will be considered. Comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person providing the comments. Comments will not be treated as confidential.

Note: Individuals with a specific dispute or grievance with the institution should request the separate Policy on Complaints document from the Commission office. The Higher Learning Commission cannot settle disputes between institutions and individuals. Complaints will not be considered third party comment.

problem areas in the dorm, made some recommendations to Physical Plant regarding what things could be easily taken care of and had some renovations discussed. From this point, I can begin to look for ways to work with and through the College to make Merlini what it should be – a positive, living, learning environment.

This is the type of effective and progressive "complaining" that needs to happen more often at Saint Joe. Instead of just talking to your friends about what you do not like at SJC, come to the Student Association meetings that are held every other Wednesday and ask the Student Association to either help directly to make a positive change, or ask that they use their constitutional power to make recommendations to the appropriate departments.

Additionally, we need to utilize the benefits that come from going to a small institution. Presumably, Saint Joseph's size is one of the reasons most of us came to this school, and yet we seemingly ignore the fact that most members of the College administration, from the President down, have open door policies and are almost always willing to talk to students and truly care about, and respond to, their input.

One of the reasons I am drawing attention to this issue here is because I noticed the overwhelming negative effect that

this type of complaining had on me and the effect that it has on people in general, especially on this campus.

Now, this certainly is not a concept applicable only to Saint Joseph's College and our students, but to the wider, even global, community. The most striking example of this is the political system in the United States. An overwhelming majority of American citizens (recent AP and Gallup polls estimate 60-70% and higher) believe that our political system and our politicians are ineffective. Yet, is there a movement in America seeking widespread political and social reform to do anything about this seemingly universal opinion? No. It would seem that apathy and

habit have gotten the best of this country and perhaps it has gotten the best of all of us too.

But I am herein challenging the student body of Saint Joseph's College to prove me wrong. Clearly identify your major concerns regarding the College and find a way of fixing them. Student Association Executive Board elections are coming up very soon, you can think about running. If you do not want to run, at least be willing to actively participate in the elections process by asking the right questions, and voting!

We have the ability to make changes here, it is, perhaps, the greatest benefit to a college like SJC. So – let's do it!

Have your voice be heard!

Are there people or groups on campus that you think deserve to be recognized for their contributions to the campus community?

Are their concerns in *The Observer* that need to be addressed?

Do you have any concerns with policies on campus?

Are there issues you think need to be discussed?

Tell us about it! The Student Forum is your way to speak out and have your voice be heard. Please send your letters to Meigan Rennells at mrq7698@saintjoe.edu attached as

Student Association Elections: A Great Pair!

By Meigan Rennells
Opinions Editor

I want to make everyone aware that Student Association Elections are coming up soon and I want to give you all some more information on who I think is the best candidate for President and Vice President.

Joseph Karpiak, junior Biology-Chemistry major and Yara Mroueh, junior Political Science major are running together as President and Vice President of the Student Association.

Karpiak and Mroueh are running on the following platforms. They are making designs to refurbish Core XI as well as the fountain outside of the Halleck Center. Both of which are in desperate need of some work. They also want to push for a new Under-21 place for students to hang out. These are all new ways to improve SJC. Karpiak and Mroueh would also like to see a new way to promote consistency in each of the Core sections.

Running on these platforms, Karpiak and Mroueh are the best candidates for President and Vice president. They will listen to all students and do their best by SJC. They are common students and many of you know them.

Karpiak/Mroueh has my vote and you should think about giving them yours as well!

OBSERVER STAFF

● EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
ELYSSE HILLVER

● NEWS EDITORS
JESSICA RUSHKE

● OPINION EDITOR
MEIGAN RENNELS

● FEATURES EDITOR
COREY DOWDS

● SPORTS EDITOR
JEREMY BUTTERFIELD
DAN ZIMMER

● OMEGA EDITOR
ELYSSE HILLVER

● CONTRIBUTORS
RACHEL KING
ERIN HILL
F.H. GONZALEZ
ALLISON STANTON
PATRICK FISHER
KRISTINA HEMMERLING
COLBY ALEXIS
RANDEE PORTERUS
ALAN AUSTIN
ADAM RUGGLES
JJ MILLER
KATIE GUERNSEY
KEN BADYLAK

● FACULTY
FACILITATOR
DR. CHARLES M. KERUN

We, the newspaper staff of *The Observer*, while exercising our First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, promise to adhere to the highest journalistic standards. *The Observer* will not print articles, editorials, or other material that misquote or misrepresent members or organizations within the Saint Joseph's College community. While constantly striving to meet these goals, we can and will print retractions amending or remedying any problems brought to our attention.

10 Years of Halo

By Adam Ruggles
Staff Writer

There have been few games that have impacted the gaming industry more than Bungie Studio's 2001 release, *Halo: Combat Evolved*. Since its release, *Halo*'s subtle innovations have been borrowed from countless other games. Elements such as a self-recharging shield and a perfected control scheme have been adopted by nearly all first-person shooters since. Moreover, *Halo* is largely credited, and rightfully so, with the success of Microsoft's first foray into the console gaming arena, namely its XBOX. Seeing how *Halo* is about to celebrate its ten year anniversary, it seems only appropriate to pay tribute to this gaming classic and one of the best games of all time.

When *Halo* was in its earliest stages, the series' a cyborg super-soldier hero, Master Chief, was a lot different than he was in the final product. In the beginning, Master Chief was armed to the teeth with machetes, flamethrowers, mini-guns, a gravity weapon, and a harpoon to deal with a particular sea monster. Additionally, there were originally also going to be wildlife that Master Chief could subdue and use for cheap transport. If one has ever played *Halo*, one would know that neither the above weapons nor the mountable

wildlife were released in the final version of the game. Another thing a lot of people probably do not know about *Halo* is that it was originally only supposed to be released on the Mac and PC. However, after a 50 million dollar check from Microsoft, Bungie's *Halo* was set to be the XBOX's exclusive launch title and Mac fans were stung with betrayal. After this November 15, 2001 release, *Halo* remained the best

perfect. The alien enemies were intelligent, the locales were varied, and the weapons and vehicles felt realistic. *Halo* did all this seamlessly, even cleverly concealing the loading screens so that one's immersion in the story remained constant. Moreover, Master Chief, a character who never showed his face, became the face of first-person shooters. Since that time, *Halo* has become a franchise, spawning five more

old television and XBOX into my dad's car, traveling to one of my friend's house where we would all link our consoles together, and playing *Halo* for hours and hours. Sleep was an afterthought. *Halo* was the game at that time, the only game as far as I was concerned. In a lot of ways, *Halo* has grown up along with me. During elementary school, my friends and I spent countless hours and numerous

best memories with my friends occurred during our *Halo 2* play sessions and we still reminisce about them to this day.

During my junior year of high school, *Halo 3* dropped and I was in line at a midnight release party outside my local GameStop. I remember staying up all night and beating the single-player campaign in a single sitting...and then proceeding to go school the next day. My body was running on adrenaline and when I got home after a long day of classes, I did not sleep. I played more *Halo*. When *Halo: Reach* came out last year, I planned on doing the same thing. I waited in line at midnight, got my copy, beat the campaign in one setting, and then headed off to my only class of the day, and was greeted with a piece of white paper indicating that class had been cancelled. I felt like the luckiest man in the world and headed straight back to my futon and controller.

As one can see, *Halo* has been a part of most of my life, nearly half in fact, and some of my best memories have come as a result of it. Words cannot express how excited I am to play the remastered and high definition version of *Halo: Combat Evolved*, set to be released on November 15, 2011, ten years to the day after its original release.



selling Xbox game for the next four years, credited with half the console sales in the first sixty days.

On top of its tight, intuitive controls, sweeping music and Gregorian chants that captured the gravity of each situation, *Halo*'s combat was near

games and several novels over the next ten years.

As a lifelong fan of *Halo*, it is hard to believe it has already been ten years. I still vividly remember the first time I played *Halo* and how it was unlike anything I had ever played up until that point. I remember putting my

weekends playing its multiplayer. On weekends, *Halo* at my house became a weekly event – a tradition that lasted until I left for college. In high school, *Halo 2* was released and featured XBOX Live support (multiplayer gaming via the internet) and that became my new obsession. Some of my

Revisiting an Old Classic: The Great Gatsby

By Randee Portteus
Features Writer

In my struggle to find a book to review, I realized something: I've read so little since I came to college. Most of my summer was spent re-reading the entire Harry Potter series and other random novels I picked up at flea markets for fifty cents a pop. So my frantic question this week was, "What on earth can I review?"

It was then that I remembered I am an English major, after all, and reading for class is far from uncommon for me. In fact, one of the classes I am in I took because of one of the books on the reading list. It was F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*.

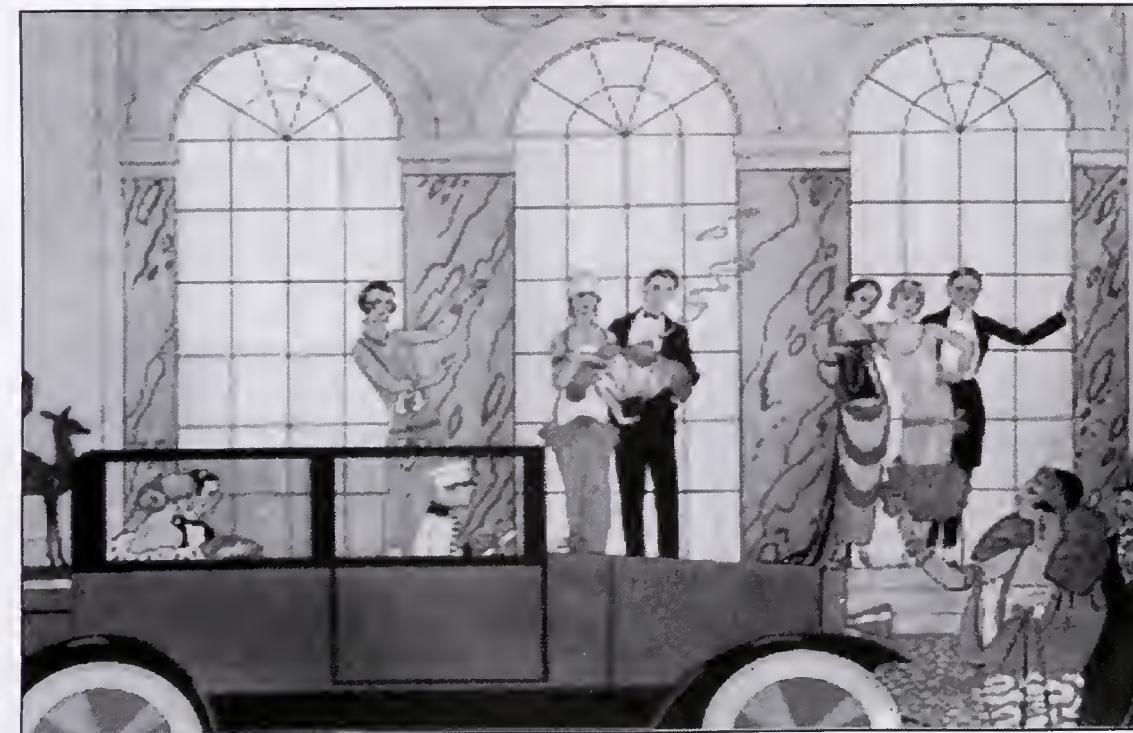
Now, I'm sure many of you have read it. But wait, before you stop reading this, hear me out. *The Great Gatsby* is one of my favorite books of all time. You were probably forced to read it in high school and may have hated it. Of course you did. You were force fed that crap about the green light at the end of the dock and how it represented something-or-other, right? I read it in high school, too. But I was homeschooled, and I was left to form my own opinions about the novel. And when it was taught in class this semester, I fell in love

with it even more. But on to my review ...

The Great Gatsby is about Nick Carraway and his

of Nick in reuniting with his former love and Nick's cousin, Daisy. The novel revolves around the lives of these three characters, revealing the depths

novel is that it shows us a world that isn't often shown – especially not in America, and especially not today. It shows a gritty reality in which people



"Like much of Fitzgerald's prose, it is neat and well-crafted. Fitzgerald seems to have had a brilliant understanding of lives that are corrupted by greed and incredibly sad and unfulfilled. The novel is a product of its generation—with one of American literature's most powerful characters in the figure of Jay Gatsby, who is urbane and world-weary. Gatsby is really nothing more than a man desperate for love." - James Topham (Google Images)

ridiculously rich neighbor, Jay Gatsby. They form a friendship, and Gatsby enlists the help

of their materialism and absolute corruption.

The great thing about this

care more about their money, their status, their possessions than about other people. It shows

us a world in which a murder is virtually written off because the victim "deserved it." It shows a world that actually exists. People aren't always pretty. They aren't always nice. They don't always do the right thing, or care about others more than they care about themselves. *The Great Gatsby* shows us all of these things.

What's even cooler about this novel is that at the time it was written, no one ever wrote things like this. No one challenged the upper class, no one pointed out the flaws of American society, and no one cared about the flaws of the upper class, they simply longed to be one of them. So Fitzgerald writing a book that completely trashed the upper class was not only ballsy but also completely awesome.

So I'd encourage you to give the book another try. Not only does it have a lot of great layers to it, it's also just a plain, old-fashioned, good story. He wants her, she wants him, but she's married and it's just a big, dramatic mess. Everyone loves a good affair. So go give it another try. And just forget about that stupid green light and everything your junior-year English teacher told you it represented.

Crazy, Stupid, Love

By Kristina Hemmerling
Staff Writer

I know it's totally typical for girls to like romantic comedy movies... but oh well, I guess I'm typical in that regard. A few weekends ago a few friends and I went out to the Ritz to see *Crazy, Stupid, Love*. I thought it was an awesome movie. Not only was the story very funny, cute, and sad, the acting was excellent as well.

The plot in this movie is surprisingly complex. Based off the previews I saw, I was expecting it to be a typical romantic comedy with a happy ending, but there's actually more than one plot to follow. The first characters we're introduced to are Cal and Emily Weaver, played by Steve Carell and Julianne Moore. They've been together since high school, have three kids, and, as Cal thought, are happily married.

The two are on a dinner date, and while trying to choose dessert, Emily bursts out that she wants a divorce. Cal is crushed, but instead of trying to stop it he goes along with her wishes and quietly steps out of their marriage while literally jumping out of their moving car.

Back at the Weaver abode, babysitter Jessica, played by Analeigh Tipton, is attempting to put the kids to bed. Molly Weaver (Joey King) is their young



Crazy Stupid Good is what this movie should be titled! No, but seriously, this movie is above the standard when it comes to breaking some of the romance/comedy's stereotypes. With hilarious Steve Carell, old but sexy Julianne Moore, quirky and cute Emma Stone, Manly and handsome Ryan Gosling what's not to like? Also, a nice addition with Kevin Bacon, to add a little crisp to the film. (Google Images)

daughter, and Robbie (Jonah Bobo) is their newly teenaged son. Some exposition happens before the Weaver parents arrive home, but I'll tell you a very awkward scene between Robbie and the babysitter occurs, I'm sure

everyone (especially any guys who see this) will laugh quite a bit as the joke.

The next scene isn't about the Weaver Family, but a few new characters. Jacob Palmer, played by Ryan Gosling, is your typical

smooth-guy who is always at the bar to pick up chicks. He is very suave, but when he tries to pick up Emma Stone's character, he's shut down. I cannot reveal to you her whole name (since it will give away a lovely plot twist), but her first name is Hannah. Of course, Palmer isn't affected and winds up going home with a different woman.

Now Cal moves into his own apartment and starts going out almost every night. He gets drunk at the counter and yells around the bar about his divorce. This happens to be Palmer's usual bar, so he talks to Cal and they decide to turn his life around. This mission involves many clothing stores and a few slaps to the face, but afterwards Cal looks like the suave man he isn't at all. After a

few lessons from Palmer, though, he turns around and gets a handle on his new life.

There are many twists and turns throughout this movie over who wants whom. Some unexpected relationships are discovered, and personalities change multiple times. There is much comedy and romance, as is expected, but there are some very touching scenes as well. I am not ashamed to admit that I teared up twice during this movie. Many of the jokes are quite crude, but of course they're funny, and there are a few awkward romance scenes as well.

As far as romantic comedies go, I'd give *Crazy Stupid Love* a 9/10. If you ever get the chance to check it out, I suggest you do so.



Ryan Gosling and Steve Carell in a bar together in the movie, I wish I was there with them, because that would be awesome. (Google Images)

Netflix Catch: Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind

By Corey Dowds

Features Editor

Have you ever seen a movie that makes emotionally rocks you until you sob like a 45-year-old woman during a midlife crisis? Well, perhaps you should watch a movie that evokes such emotion. "Oh, sorry Corey, I'm really tough and sobbing is for weenies," is probably what you are thinking, but if you have never seen *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* than perhaps you should. This 2004 Sundance movie festival classic is a timeless masterpiece that will emotionally and psychologically challenge your ideas of love. I know that sounds a bit cliché, but you should watch the movie before you judge!

Thanks to the wonder of Netflix, a group of friends and I watched ESOTSM on the recommendation of another friend. It was an experience that can be epitomized by one word: whoa. All of our expectations and more were fulfilled and more upon completion of the film. The only way you would not enjoy this film is if you were Hitler, or if you weren't paying attention, or perhaps a combination of the two.

Jim Carrey, playing the emotionally confused and withdrawn Joel Barish encounters an free spirited girl played named

Clementine played by Kate Winslet. During to what appears to be an out-of-the-ordinary train ride for Joel, the two strike up a conversation. It becomes immediately apparent that the two are inexplicably drawn to each other, despite their radically different personalities. Other than that, I will not tell you a thing! It may sound like your typical spontaneous romance, but it is just the opposite. The



Have you ever seen a movie and then wanted to throw up rainbows because you felt so emotionally confused? Well, there is a first time for everything! (Google Images)

movie almost breeds an entirely new genre, bordering on a new "psychological love" genre.

ESOTSM is a movie about love and memory. It questions the audience, "Is it better to have lived and loved than to never love at all?" The film has won a variety of awards, including best original screenplay at the Academy Awards, and the British Academy Film Awards, Best Film of the Decade named by the Austin Film Critics, Best Screenplay named by Central Ohio Film, Best Film by the Online Film Critics Society, as well as a slew of other awards and nominations. It has a 93% on Rottentomatoes.com, and was named 83rd best movie of the decade by Empire Magazine. Needless to say, this movie has had its fair share of acclaim and awards, and I concur it deserves every bit of it. 10/10!

**"How happy is the blameless vestal's lot!
The world forgetting, by
the world forgot.
Eternal sunshine of the
spotless mind!
Each pray'r accepted, and
each wish resign'd;"**
"Eloisa to Abelard" by
Alexander Pope

Comedy Classic: Airplane!

By Alan Austin

Staff Writer

Dr. Rumak: "Can you fly this plane and land it?"

Ted Striker: "Surely you can't be serious?"

Dr. Rumak: "I am serious, and don't call me Shirley!"

Airplane is known to be one of the most classic comedies of all time. Being made in 1980, this is not exactly a new movie, but a very important part of the history of comedy itself.

The story takes place in this airplane with half of the passengers and all of the pilots going ill after eating the bad fish they had for dinner. With all of the pilots down, someone must land the plane. Ted Striker is a man trying to get his girl back who he lost by always bringing up his war days into everything he does. Having experience in the small, single engine planes from the war, he is the only hope the group has.

Guaranteed to laugh at least half of the movie, I give this movie an A. It gave rise to all of the fun parodies we have today and it tells us how every situation can still be a hilarious one. The comedy is thrown out but there is no signal in the movie itself to tell you if it is funny or not. It is all

just typical conversation.

A very interesting thing is to take a look at the actors and think of the time. Leslie Nielsen, Peter Graves, and Lloyd Bridges and many others in the cast were all well known for their ability in movies of the serious quality and were never given a real opportunity with comedy. The writers chose all serious actors to throw the audience off their feet and make this movie unlike any comedy ever seen before. Airplane had so much of an effect on many of the actors that they actually did more work with that type of comedy. Leslie Nielsen and Lloyd Bridges switched to comedy and never turned back.

If you are bored or need a break from homework, then I would suggest this movie. I still watch it when the daily stresses come around. It is even crazier because every time you see it you see a joke you didn't catch the first time. If you like a movie with puns, literal interpretations of regular everyday statements, moments you never see coming, and many great actors and actresses then this is the movie for you!

Pumas Fall in Season Finale Against Missouri S&T

By Ken Badylak
Sports Information Director

The Saint Joseph's College football team ended its season on Saturday afternoon with a 45-24 loss to Missouri Science and Technology. S&T took advantage of fortunate bounces and SJC turnovers en route to the Great Lakes Football Conference victory.

Both teams exchanged field goals in the opening quarter as S&T (6-4, 2-1 GLFC) recorded that game's first touchdown in the early going of the second quarter as Josh Firm ended an 80-yard drive with a 14 yard touchdown pass to Joseph Hyman. On SJC's next play from scrimmage Hilton Dawson intercepted Tate Borlik's (Fr., South Bend, Ind./Washington) pass and returned 23-yards for a touchdown.

The Pumas (2-8, 1-2 GLFC) settled in thereafter as S&T did not score for the rest of the half. SJC did move the ball in the first half recording 11 first downs. The Pumas longest drive of the second quarter gave possession back to the Miners on their own 19-yard after a missed opportunity to

convert on fourth down.

With SJC trailing 17-3 at intermission, the Pumas went three and out on its opening series. However, S&T followed suit and returned possession back three plays later. Sean Martin recorded a second interception return for the Miners' defense, giving S&T a 24-3 cushion with over five minutes left in the third frame.

Billy VandeMerk (So., Riverside, Ind./Riverside-Brookfield) entered the game on



Tate Borlik drops back for a pass. Photo by Father McFarland C.P.P.S

the Pumas' ensuing drive as he helped maneuver the offense on a 12-play scoring drive. Horace Lane (Fr., Sterling Heights, Mich./Sterling Heights) ended the 77-yard drive with a three-yard touchdown run.

The Miners immediately answered with Curterris Golden finishing off a 54-yard drive with a three yard touchdown run. S&T regained possession after forcing an SJC three and out on the next drive. Steve Watson, facing a third down connected on a 50

yard touchdown pass to Hyman with 24 seconds left in the third quarter.

Trailing 38-10, VandeMerk's next pass was tipped at the line of scrimmage and fell into the arms of Dan Mauszycki who was on the turf of Allgood-Bailey Stadium. S&T capitalized with another score to increase its lead to 45-10.

SJC scored twice in the final six minutes as Alphonoso Hines (Fr., Fishers, Ind./Fishers) caught a three-yard touchdown pass from VandeMerk. Lane then recorded his second score of the game with a six yard touchdown run with 2:22 left in the contest.

The Miners ran down the clock as VandeMerk finished the game connecting on 16 of 28 passes for 131 yards with an interception and touchdown. Julian Walker (RSO., Indianapolis, Ind./Southport) made nine catches for 91 yards while Ben Gomes (RSR., Indianapolis, Ind./Ben Davis) finished with a game-high 12 tackles. Gary Yeoman (Fr., Mishawaka, Ind./Penn) recorded nine tackles, with four being for a loss.

Lady Pumas Look to Start the Season Shooting

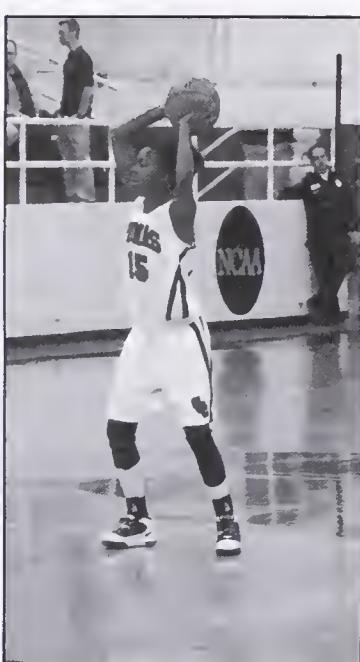
By J.J. Miller
Staff Writer

After an opening scrimmage loss to Ball State, it's officially college basketball season once again for the Lady Pumas.

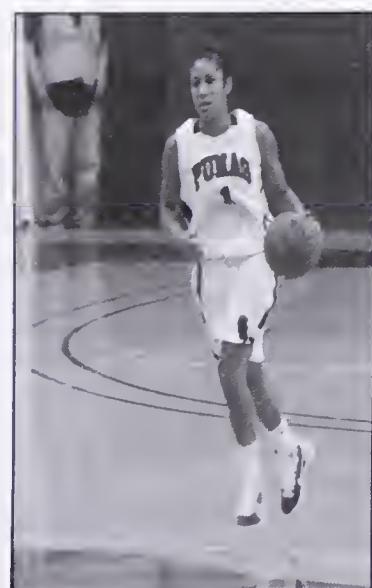
Once again, the Pumas look to seniors Tatiana Ortiz, Britney Cruse, and Montrell Mills for leadership as the Puma come into the season with a young, but deep roster of players.

The Pumas also come into the season with the potential to surprise the GLVC, as they were ranked 8th in the GLVC Coaches Poll for this season.

In the season-opening scrimmage, the Lady Pumas ran with Ball State in the second



Britney Cruse sets up the court to score. Photo by Father McFarland C.P.P.S



Tatiana Ortiz gets the ball down court Photo by Father McFarland C.P.P.S

half, scoring 35 points to Ball State's 38, leading to an 82-50 final score. Ball State shot just under 50% at home, leading them to victory against SJC. Senior Jen Szala led the Pumas with 10 points, while Britney Cruse had 9 points and 3 assists to lead the Lady Pumas. Montrell Mills lead the team on the glass with 5 rebounds, while also contributing 6 points.

Look for the Lady Pumas to build momentum into the season as they play against IUPUI in Indianapolis on the 8th, and play their home opener against Grand Valley the 13th.

Men's Basketball is looking for its best season

By Katie Guernsey
Staff Writer

The Puma men's basketball team has been hard at work preparing for the beginning of their season. Since the scrimmage and exhibition game on October 22 against Bethel College they have been polishing up on what parts of the team's game needed the most work. Senior Jake Hassler says of the upcoming season: "We are a bigger team this year and our skill players are looking like they are ready to get the season started. If we can stay this healthy its looking like a pretty positive year for us."

The Pumas were picked as seventh in the preseason polls for the Great Lakes Valley Conference in the East Division. This year the GLVC will be returning to a two-division format as opposed to the three-division like usual. At the head of their division is the defending national champion Bellarmine University.

The team lost Mike Horton and Marcus Jackson last year. These two senior leaders will be sorely missed this year, and left some big spots to fill. This season

(Right) Jake Hassler goes for the ball, Photo by Father McFarland C.P.P.S

the coaches have been stressing defense and rebounding. They believe this is where the success lies this season.

The team is looking at three promising freshmen, who have been working hard since they arrived at school. This year the Pumas will be playing a fast-paced, up-tempo style game, and getting the ball inside to work an inside out. The team is really starting to fuse into a unified unit, but is still working hard to perfect their weaknesses.

"We have nine seniors this year who are determined to finish their career strong and look forward to putting a lot of W's on the board this year. We are all excited to get the season started and see all of our fans and fellow students at the games" said senior Jade Anthrop. Puma student body, get ready to come out and support your men's basketball team, because the team is ready to get some W's.



Upcoming Home Games

Women's Basketball

11/13/2011
Grand Valley State University
1:00 PM

12/1/2011
Northern Kentucky University
5:30 PM

12/3/2011
Bellarmine University
1:00 PM

Men's Basketball

11/16/2011
Hillsdale College
7:00 PM

11/20/2011
Indiana Institute of Technology
3:00 PM

12/1/2011
Northern Kentucky University
7:30 PM

12/3/2011
Bellarmine University
3:00 PM

Top NFL Teams Having A Surprising Season

By Jeremy Butterfield

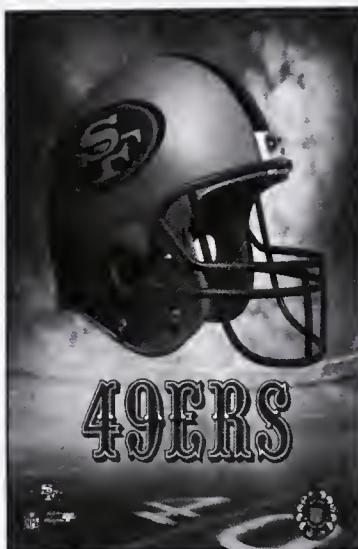
Sports Editor

With the NFL season half way over, some teams are doing as well as they could hope for, but others are doing even better than anyone could have guessed. The Green Bay Packers are the defending Super Bowl Champs. They won with an injured team, and now with their best players back in good health, they are expected to do well. Then there are teams like the Detroit Lions who are at a 6-2, but no one could have predicted that.

The Lions have one of the best pass defenses and are 6th in the NFL, allowing 193.6 yards per game. In the past few years, the Lions were the team others would always consider an easy win. Now the Lions are healthy and the team knows what their strong areas are, so they can figure out how to win games like during week 2 when they beat the Kansas City Chiefs 48-3. However, the Lions are in the same division as the Packers and need to face them two more times this season and one is the last game of the season. With this in mind, it might be tough for the Lions to end up in the playoffs even though they are having a surprisingly good season so far.

Another team no one thought had a chance this season was the Cincinnati Bengals. They lost their starting quarterback, Carson Palmer, who played for them for 8 seasons. So they drafted for the future and took a great young wide receiver in the

first round of the draft, and in the second round took their now starting quarterback Andy Dalton. Their defense is ranked 10th in passing and 2nd in rushing yards this season. The offense is ranked 21 for both pass and rushing this season. With a 6-2 record, they are tied on top of their division with the Baltimore Ravens. But they have played only one division game so far this season,



so now the Bengals must play four division games the next four weeks. Those games will test their young quarterback by facing the top two defenses; the Ravens once and the Steelers twice.

The San Francisco 49ers is a team that is having a very quiet 7-1 season. They have beaten the Lions and Bengals, and they have the top rated rush defense in the league. They have not won many of their games in an amazing fashion, but they get it done with

Barrett and Strang Show off for the GLVC

By J.J. Miller
Staff Writer

The freshmen duo of Logan Barrett and Andie Strang have been leading the Puma cross country pack all season, and at the GLVC Championship Meet, the pair did not fail to impress.

Barrett took 7th place for the Pumas, earning him All-GLVC honors. His time of 25:03 also earned him the SJC 8K record, previously held by 2010 graduate Naza Sanchez. Strang was 7 seconds off the women's record, placing 20th for the women's team with a time of 23:02.

The men's team placed 8th as a team, with sophomore

Richard Kaht placing 26th with a time of 25:56, and junior Rocco Mazzanti ran a time of 26:28, earning him 47th overall.

The women's team also placed 8th as a team, as Katie DeBoy placed 40th in a time of 23:35. Sophomore Morgan Kleinaman took 51st with a time of 24:00; with freshmen Frehiwet Negassi following 5 seconds back to take 53rd.

The Puma runners now get to look forward to the Indoor Track and Field season, where they'll compete in a variety of events, ranging from the 800 meter and 1600 meter run, all the way to the 3K and 5K meter run.



Andie Strang goes for the gold Photo by Father McFarland C.P.P.S

a strong running game. The 49ers have the 6th most yards per game, 137.6. Besides their 48-3 victory over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, their games have been decided by a touchdown or two every game. They have only faced one division team so far, but the other three teams in the division have a combined total of five wins between them. The rest of the season for 49ers is going to be hard since they will be facing some of the best defenses, but as long as they can hold their own in their division, they can finish the season strong and make the playoffs.

With the season half way over, none of these teams can rest, but if they can continue what they have been doing this season, they are looking very good for a playoff run and maybe the Super Bowl.

St. Louis Pulls Off Comeback Story to Win the World Series

By Daniel Zimmer
Sports Editor

The Saint Louis Cardinals won the World Series in 7 games this year. It was not so much a game of dominance, but a story of a team that never gave up. The Cardinals throughout the season were down, deflated, injured and frustrated, but took these negatives and turned them into a positive. The Cardinals climbed into the playoffs having to battle back from 4 1/2 games out of the Wild Card spot. Some were unlikely events, such as sweeping the Atlanta Braves and receiving some help from other teams. Another key event which helped the Cardinals to the playoffs was their come from behind win over the Mets in the last inning after being down 6-2. Their story is just that, the story of a comeback.

Games 1 and 2 of the Fall Classic set the tone for what could be one of the most historic World Series in decades. The Cardinals should have been up 2-0 as the series shifted to Texas, but a ninth inning rally by the Rangers just proved that they were not going to go quietly as they searched for their first world championship in franchise history.

After a tough loss in the final inning in Game 2, St. Louis made history in Game 3. Scoring in seven of the nine innings, St. Louis took the series lead once again with a 16-7 victory. On that night, Albert Pujols, the Cardinals best hitter, forever carved his name in baseball lore. Pujols went 5-for-6, with three home runs and

Puma Athlete Profile:

By J.J. Miller

Staff Writer

Logan Barrett

Logan is a freshman. He is a member of the cross country and track team, where he is a distance runner. Logan has been the top runner for the Pumas this season, placing 7th at the GLVC Championship meet with a time of 25:03, giving him the SJC record time for an 8K course. His major is Sports Management.

Hometown: Bedford, Indiana



How long have you been running? This is my 8th season

How did you get involved with Cross Country? I had just moved from a private Catholic school to public school, and I wasn't doing a fall sport, so I decided to try it. I liked it, and I decided to stay with it.

What do you run? Distance Runner

How does it feel to be competing here? It feels great. I'm excited to be a part of a prestigious program at the collegiate level.

What's your favorite non-running sport? Basketball

What do you miss the most from back home? I miss the landscape, especially the rolling hills. I miss my family too, and my high school friends.

What's one thing nobody knows about you? I'm definitely a neat freak.

six runs batted in, putting him on lists with all time great hitters Babe Ruth and Reggie Jackson. The 2-1 lead for the Cardinals was short-lived as they lost the next two games and had to head back to Busch Stadium down 3 games to 2.

It was Game 6 that changed the tide. The Cardinals trailed 7-5 in the ninth inning with two outs and two strikes. Rangers pitcher, Neftali Feliz, was one pitch away from putting the 2011 baseball season to rest, however hometown hero third baseman David Freese, of the St. Louis Cardinals blasted a triple off of the right field wall, scoring two and sending the game into extra innings. It came down to the last strike, and once again, St. Louis fought back.

In the top of the 10th, Josh Hamilton of the Texas Rangers hit a moon shot just over the wall in right-center. The Cardinals were once again down by two. St. Louis did not go quietly. Two consecutive singles by Daniel Descalso and Jon Jay started off the St. Louis 10th inning. A sacrifice bunt moved them into scoring position, and then an RBI groundout by Ryan Theriot cut Texas's lead to one. Then the Cardinals waited until the last strike. Lance Berkman stood in the box, and on a 2-2 count ripped a line drive to center to tie the game again.

In the bottom of the 11th, Cardinal's David Freese once again shocked the world when



The Cardinals celebrate their win. Photo courtesy of Google Images.

**Fountain Stone
Theaters**
Movies for November 10
(219) 866-2222
fountainstonetheaters.com

**A Very Harold and Kumar
3D Christmas (R)**
3:00, 5:00, 7:00

In Time (PG-13)
2:30, 4:30, 6:30

Paranormal Activity 3 (R)
3:10, 5:10, 7:10

Puss in Boots (PG)
2:50, 4:50, 6:50

Tower Heist (PG-13)
2:40, 4:40, 6:40

Coming Soon
Twilight: Breaking Dawn
Happy Feet 2
Hugo

The Ritz Cinema

Movies for November 10

(219) 866-0086

www.ritzcinema.net

All movies begin at 7:00 M-F

Matinees Sat/Sun 2:00

The Help (PG-13)

Last in the Alphabet, First in Love: Dan Zimmer Dating Tips

By Daniel Zimmer
Sports Editor



Dear Dan,

I'm meeting people on campus, but maybe not the right people. They're nice people, but maybe not all that I want. They're fun to be around, but not all the time. After following some of your past advice, I think I want something more lasting. What's your advice for this situation? How can I meet the right kind of people?

Well, first off where are you meeting all these people? Think about it. Is it

at parties, classes, the gym? While these may be good places to initially meet people, it's difficult to really get to know someone.

Think about it, how much do you really talk to someone at this type of place? Classes are 50 minutes and leave little time to talk. At a party, there is simply too much going on for some true focus. You are way too focused on other things like how many reps you're doing or watching how many miles you have run to talk to anyone at the gym.

Now that you know what isn't the ideal place, I'll tell you what you should do. I'd still go to these places, (some are classes, duh, you have to go to those) but branch out fully to someone. People rarely just jump out, but when they do you tend to remember them.

Make an effort and be that lasting impression to someone else. They'll then come back at you. Then you're free to exchange back and forth. "Well, how do I do that?"

Just be yourself, if they don't take it then the right way, well then move on. You didn't lose anything, if anything they lost out on a great time with you.

Once you've made a great first impression, find time to hang out together. Sit together at lunch, or hang out at a basketball game. Keep the atmosphere casual at first and then you can decide if you want to become closer with the person.

Send your dating questions to Dan at dzq7803@saintjoe.edu or ask on our Facebook page SJC Observer.

Over heard

If you've heard anything scandalous at the cafeteria, anything outrageous enough that you can't keep it to yourself, then look no further! Submit your anonymous comments to ehq7585@saintjoe.edu today to let your peers' voices be heard!

~
"She's vegetarian?
I thought she was an
alcoholic!"

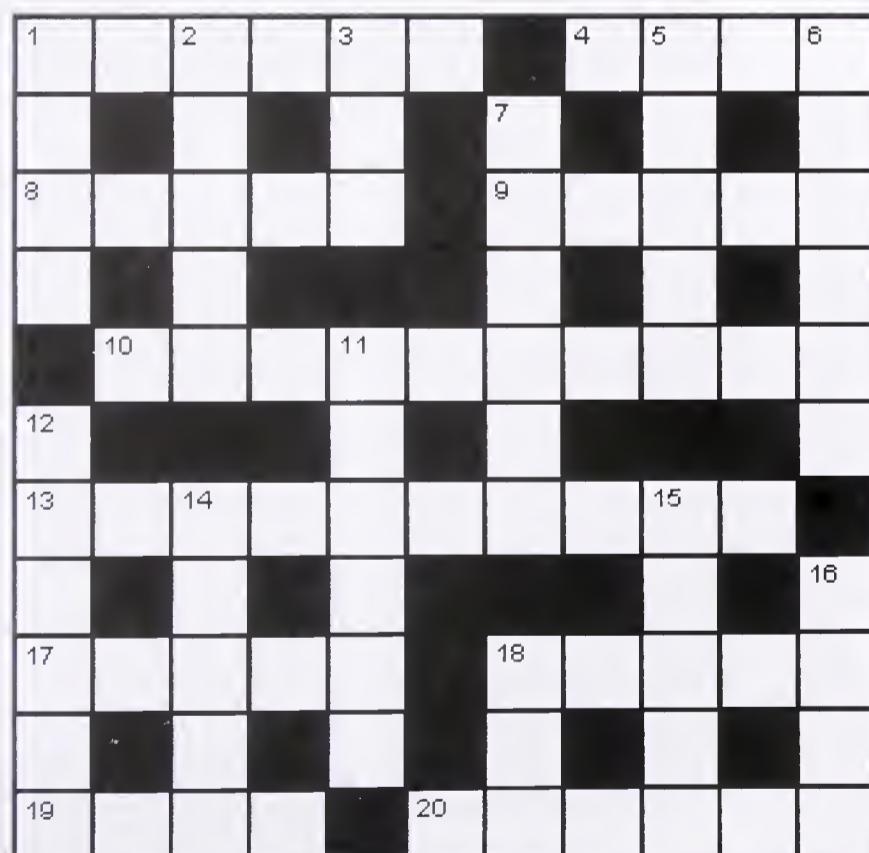
~
"Put your shoes on
so your pants don't fall
off."

~
"He may be a total
loser and a freak, but he
still has some redeeming
qualities. Plus, if I
didn't date him, no one
else would."

~
"Not even my therapist
believes my concerns
that I'm not ready for
Harry Potter to be over.
It's all just very sad and
everyone thinks I'm
crazy."

Reasons to Party

- November 10 1969-Sesame Street debut
- November 12 1745-First known Happy Hour held in Ireland
- November 14 1883-The jukebox is invented
- November 15-Annual Three Stooges Convention held in Harrisburg, PA
- November 18 1928-Mickey Mouse's birthday
- November 19 1965-The Pop-Tart is invented
- November 21 1871-First human cannonball fired
- November 27 1952-First 3D movie shown
- November 29 1890-First Army vs. Navy football game played
- December 2 1982-Barney Clark becomes first person to receive an artificial heart
- December 3 1829-The world's largest bar opens
- December 5-Blue jeans invented



Across

- 1. Constant (6)
- 4. Evidence of past injury (4)
- 8. Haggard (5)
- 9. Fiends (5)
- 10. Salutary (10)
- 13. Clearly (10)
- 17. Dialect (5)
- 18. Copious (5)
- 19. Part of an egg (4)
- 20. Pressing (6)

Down

- 1. Mentor (4)
- 2. Evade (5)
- 3. Point (3)
- 5. Breed of dog (5)
- 6. Answer (6)
- 7. Outcome (6)
- 11. Mystery (6)
- 12. Collector's item (6)
- 14. Motionless (5)
- 15. Oversight (5)
- 16. Portable shelter (4)
- 18. Atmosphere (3)

WOULD YOU RATHER...

- ...experience enduring emotional trauma or extreme physical pain?
- ...be stuck in extreme heat or extreme cold?
- ...travel back in time or travel to the future?
-be naked all the time or never be able to be naked?
- ...eat an infected slug or a human arm?
- ...have a zombie apocalypse or an alien invasion?
- ...marry a terrible person or never be married at all?